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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7293

BILL NUMBER: HB 1384

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 31, 2004

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Voter Identification and Voter List Maintenance.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Murphy

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (A) The bill requires a county voter registration office to conduct an annual program to remove the names of ineligible voters from the voter registration list. The bill provides that the cost of implementing the program shall be paid from the county general fund without appropriation.

(B) The bill requires a voter to present a picture identification before the voter is permitted to vote in an election unless the voter executes an affidavit indicating the voter is indigent and unable to obtain a picture identification or has a religious objection to being photographed. The bill provides that a voter who is otherwise unable or refuses to provide a picture identification may vote by provisional ballot.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* (A) The bill would repeal the duplicate registration elimination program, which would minimally reduce the administrative responsibilities of the Election Division.

Background: As of September 2004, the Election Division had 13 staff positions. Four positions (a systems analyst, an unclassified executive position, a Governor's fellow, and a PAT 1 attorney) were vacant. The other 9 positions included one attorney, two field auditors, two unclassified executive positions, two program coordinators, and two administrative personnel. The Election Commission/Division reverted \$63,947 to the state General Fund at the end of FY 2004. The Election Division was appropriated \$794,571 in FY 2004 and \$725,571 in FY 2005.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (A) Under the bill, counties would be required, annually, to remove ineligible voters from their voting lists. If counties are not currently conducting voter list maintenance yearly, county voter registration offices would require additional administrative time to carry out yearly maintenance. Additional checks would be required to determine multiple registrations or death of a voter. The county voter registration office would be required to remove names for any other circumstance that makes a voter ineligible to vote. Depending on the size of the county voter lists, the expenditure required for this provision would depend on local action. Under the bill, the expenditure to maintain the voter lists would be paid from the county general fund without appropriation. County general funds are subject to maximum levy limitations.

(B) Under the bill, poll clerks and assistant poll clerks would be required to check the photo identification of a voter attempting to enter the polls. The provision of the bill would add to the administrative responsibility of poll clerks. However, the provision should be able to be administered within existing local resources.

Background- Based on a small sample of Indiana counties, per diem for election board members range from \$65 to \$150 for inspectors and from \$40 to \$100 for judges, clerks, and sheriffs.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties; precinct election boards. .

Information Sources: *State of Indiana HRM Detail Staffing Report, September, 2004*; State Budget Agency: *FY2004 General and Rainy Day Fund Summaries*; State of Indiana: *List of Appropriations July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2005*; Various County Election Boards and County Circuit Court Clerk's Offices.

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